

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC COMMENT

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Virginia Department of Health (VDH) and the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) seek written and oral comments from interested persons on the development of a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for fecal coliform bacteria in shellfish propagation waters located in the City of Hampton, City of Poquoson and York County, Virginia.

The impaired segments are located in VDH Growing Area 54 containing:

Growing Area 54	Cedar Creek, Northwest branch Back River
Growing Area 54	Topping Creek, Northwest branch Back River
Growing Area 54	Tabbs Creek, Northwest branch Back River
Growing Area 54	Watts Creek, Northwest branch Back River
Growing Area 54	Front Cove, Northwest branch Back River
Growing Area 54	S.W. Branch Back River
Growing Area 54	Harris River, Back River
Growing Area 54	Wallace Creek, Back River
Growing Area 54	Long Creek, Back River
Growing Area 54	Gundland Creek, Back River

All waters are tributaries to Chesapeake Bay.

The affected water body segments are identified in Virginia's 1998 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report as impaired due to violations of the State's water quality standard for fecal coliform bacteria in shellfish waters. Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and §62.1-44.19:7.C of the Code of Virginia, require DEQ to develop TMDLs for pollutants responsible for each impaired water contained in Virginia's 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report.

This is the first public meeting, to provide information and solicit participation of citizens and local government in the development of the fecal coliform TMDL's to be held on **September 14, 2005** from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Northampton Branch, Hampton Public Library, main meeting room, 936 Big Bethel Road, Hampton, Virginia. Directions can be obtained by calling Chester Bigelow at (804) 698-4554 or visiting the library web site at <http://www.hamptonpubliclibrary.org/services-mapnh.html>.

The public comment period will begin on September 15, 2005, and end on October 14, 2005. Questions or information requests should be addressed to Chester Bigelow and should include the name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the comments. Requests should be sent to Chester Bigelow, Department of Environmental Quality, 629 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia, 23240, telephone (804) 698-4554, Fax (804) 698-4116, or e-mail ccbigelow@deq.virginia.gov.